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Last Spring, 1889, I took a "Little Green" with a similar enlargement, the parts of which seemed healthy and the surrounding tissues appeared normal; the bony structure being translucent, almost transparent. Nothing out of common was noted in heron.

Now a question: In case of the duck was the abnormal windpipe the cause of the queer actions? Is this condition frequent? In case of the heron, would it have passed, ultimately, into a more diseased state, similar to that of the duck? Is this condition progressive?

THE SNOWY OWL.

Nyctea Nyctea.

BY E. B. PECK, CLIFTON SPRINGS, N. Y.

This is one of the owls of whose habits very little is known. Few collectors are plucky enough to endure the hardships incident to a thorough study of their habits in their northern breeding place. This bird seldom reaches Ontario, Co., N. Y., and I have never met it here, but I have noted it several times in Monroe Co., whose northern shore is washed by the waters of Lake Ontario.



THE SNOWY OWL.

Dec. 26, 1889, while on a collecting trip up the lake beach in Monroe Co., I came to a point of land jutting out into the lake some little distance. Near the end of the point stood an elm tree. On one of the lower branches I saw an object, which, at a distance, looked like a bunch of white paper flapping in the wind. When almost within shot-gun range, I

saw it was a Snowy Owl. I began to creep toward him, but was disappointed, for he spread out his white wings and sailed over into a lot and sat on a stone-pile. I crept after him but I could not get near enough for a shot. I gave it up in despair, tramped

back to the hotel, ordered my horse and drove homeward. On arrival home there was a letter from a friend, stating he had a white owl for me. Two weeks later I received a fine specimen from Yorktown, N. Y. It is now mounted and in my collection.

The measurements were as follows: extent, 5 ft. 8 in.; length, 28 in.; tail, 9 in.; male.

The plumage of this species is almost pure white, marked by dusky-brown on some of the feathers of head and back. The female is much darker than male, only the face, fore neck, middle of breast and feet being white; the other parts being heavily barred with dusky.

The eggs are 5—10, 1.76x2.24, pure white.

AMONG THE GULLS AT DUCK ISLAND.

BY CHAS. S. BUTTERS, HAVERHILL, MASS.

My article in the last number of the SEMI-ANNUAL, described a visit I made to an island off Portland Harbor, and securing a number of eggs of the Common Fern and Leach's Petrel.

After leaving that island, we started down the coast, headed for Mt. Desert, Me. It must be remembered that this was a fishing trip, and being the only oologist on board, I could not spend the time collecting that I wished to.

The coast from Portland to Mt. Desert is lined with islands, large and small. I think these islands would make good collecting grounds, but as it was rather late in the season I could not do much. I heard that on one of the islands, the year before, the American Herring Gull had been found breeding in large numbers. That was the island I wished to visit.

During the next few days I went ashore on quite a number of islands, finding a few Tern's eggs, and on one island I found a solitary nest of the Herring Gull, containing two eggs, which I collected. Not far from this nest some of the men found a pair of young gulls, about two-thirds grown. After a long chase they were captured and brought on board.